

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: MASONI, Bruno

SERIAL NO.: (International Appn No. PCT/FR03/50067)

FILED: Herewith (Intl. Filing Date 25 September 2003)

TITLE: EXHAUST LINE CATALYST OR MUFFLER SHELL FOR MOTOR VEHICLE AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING ONE SUCH SHELL

Preliminary Amendment: ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

On page 7, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The ~~invention relates to an~~ exhaust line catalyst or muffler shell for a motor vehicle. ~~The inventive shell comprises~~ includes a tube (8) which is produced by rolling and welding a metal strip (12). At least one of the ends (9, 10) of the ~~aforementioned~~ tube (8) ~~comprises~~ includes a deformation produced by ~~means of~~ flow turning, such as to define an exhaust gas inlet (4) and/or outlet (5). The weld line (15) which closes the rolled metal strip (12) forms an angle (16) in relation to the axis (17) of the tube (8) at least in the flow turning-shaped segment(s) (13, 14) thereof. The invention also relates to a method of producing one such shell.